

**Board of Health
Wednesday, July 7th, 2010
Penn Room**

Members Attending: E. Kimball, J. Wong, J. Reber

Others Attending: J. Hassel, M. Loaiza

Call to Order

Dr. Kimball called the Board of Health meeting to order at 6 pm.

Agenda and Minutes

Dr. Kimball called the Board's attention to the agenda for this meeting and the minutes from the April 28th meeting.

Mr. Reber moved, seconded by Dr. Wong, to approve the agenda and the April 28th meeting minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

Health Officer's Report

Dr. Hassel read aloud a factual report for health inspections. He stated 74 eating establishments were inspected. He shared that minor cleanliness was the major infraction.

Dr. Kimball inquired what minor cleanliness infractions are and what follow-up is done. Dr. Hassel stated minor cleanliness infractions can include things such as lack of upkeep with sinks, floors, and lighting and the businesses are given ten days to address the issues. He stated that Codes Services continue following up with the infractions if they are not taken care of.

At this time Dr. Hassel announced his retirement from the Health Officer position effective June 15, 2010. He went on to thank the Board for their hard work and dedication with the Bernhart's Park contamination issue.

Dr. Wong expressed his belief that Dr. Hassel would continue as Health Officer until Mayor McMahon's term was up. Dr. Hassel replied that he had promised to stay on board for six (6) months, which he has done. He has suggested to the Administration to eliminate the position and appoint someone in Codes the position, as the City does not require that the Health Officer be medically licensed. He has also given his recommendations for ideal candidates, if the Administration decides to keep the position.

Dr. Hassel stated that he will still be available to assist with ordering and administering flu inoculations.

Dr. Kimball inquired what the requirements for the Health Officer position entailed. Dr. Hassel stated that the position requires maintaining the inoculation system, which includes flu, hepatitis, etc. and the handicapped parking system.

Dr. Wong questioned who the Health Officer reports to. Dr. Hassel replied that to his knowledge, under the current City plan the Health Officer reports to the Managing Director. *(Note: The Health Officer currently is to report to the Property Maintenance Administrator per Ordinance 44-2009)*

Ms. Butler joined the meeting at this time.

Dr. Kimball thanked Dr. Hassel for his service as the Health Officer.

Ms. Butler inquired about his resignation. Dr. Hassel confirmed his departure.

Old Business

Ms. Butler presented information she gathered from Ms. Katzenmoyer's previous Board of Health project regarding tattoo and piercing regulations, etc. and the pending House Bill No. 645. She added that Mr. Ron Natale, Property Maintenance Supervisor, traveled to the City of Lancaster to discuss their tattoo regulating system with City officials.

Ms. Butler stated that Mr. Natale expressed the desire to meet with tattoo shop owners and brainstorm on the best regulating methods. The date for this meeting has yet to be determined.

Dr. Kimball inquired who sponsored the State legislation. Ms. Butler stated that she currently does not have that information but she will gather that information and forward it to her.

Dr. Kimball also inquired how many tattoo businesses are currently operating in the City. Ms. Butler stated about 5-6 facilities are currently operating.

Dr. Wong questioned the examination of these facilities and who would conduct the examinations. Ms. Butler replied that the State may have a model that can be adapted.

Dr. Kimball expressed her concern, as she has seen a rise in tattoos on teenagers.

Dr. Hassel suggested looking at the logistics. He asked if it would be worth enacting a layer of legislation to govern 5-6 establishments, when there are currently no problems or events on record. He added that once in the books it remains in the books, fads come and go.

Ms. Butler added that Dr. Hassel's comments are something the Board should consider before moving ahead.

Dr. Hassel again stated that the Board should allow the State to regulate these establishments.

Dr. Wong stated that the House Bill reads as if it would be in the same category as beauty parlors. Dr. Hassel agreed. Dr. Wong then inquired why tattoo parlors be included in this category. Ms. Butler stated that the State does not regulate tattoo parlors for licensing.

Dr. Wong inquired how the City of Lancaster handles tattoo parlors. Ms. Butler replied that they have their own ordinance.

Dr. Kimball suggested looking into nail salons in the City, mainly because of the fumes released from the acrylic used. Ms. Butler stated she is unsure on the regulations and licensing for these businesses. Ms. Loaiza added that training and certification is available but she is unsure if it is required.

Dr. Hassel expressed his belief that the fumes released are of concern as he has seen patients affected by the fumes.

Dr. Kimball requested that Ms. Butler look into the licensing and regulations of nail salons, to include waxing practices. Ms. Butler confirmed that she is requesting information on aestheticians and nail technicians.

Dr. Hassel inquired if this meant that the Board would be tabling tattoo regulations and licensing.

Dr. Kimball requested that Ms. Butler include tattooing and hair braiding, in the legal information that she is researching.

Dr. Kimball inquired when the meeting with the owners of the tattoo parlors is going to occur. Ms. Butler estimated, sometime in the summer.

Dr. Kimball asked if there was any interest for the Board of Health to be involved in these meetings. Ms. Butler stated that when the meeting occurs, it will be during the daytime hours since Mr. Natale works daytime hours. Dr. Kimball stated that this was okay as long as it aligns with her day off.

Dr. Hassel stated that the Board should ask Mr. Natale to suspend the tattoo regulation process until the Board decides to pursue.

Dr. Kimball stated that the next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for July 7th. She asked for the information she requested to be gathered and an invitation to be extended to Mr. Natale to attend the meeting to speak on tattoo and piercings and provide the Board of Health with input. She stated that this would then allow the Board to make an educated decision.

Ms. Butler requested Dr. Kimball to recap what she is requesting from her. Dr. Kimball stated that she would like licensing information on tattoo parlors, nail salons, hair/braiding done outside true salons, piercing, and waxing practices.

Bernhart's Park

Dr. Kimball reviewed the City's response to the Bernhart Park remediation plan. She read the names of the individuals on the task force and the response aloud.

Dr. Wong added that he was impressed with Berks County's response to the remediation plan. He inquired who directed it. Dr. Kimball replied that Mr. Steve Wheeler did.

Dr. Kimball stated that flyers announcing the lead testing event around Bernhart's were distributed by various individuals.

Mr. Reber inquired if the area included the High Villa district. Dr. Kimball confirmed.

Dr. Kimball shared that lead levels were obtained from Head start aged children from the Muhlenberg and Antietam areas.

Dr. Wong inquired if only 13 children attended. Dr. Kimball confirmed.

Dr. Kimball shared a story of one of Ms. Ballard's children that attended the lead testing event. She also shared the story of the young girl who wrote a letter to Council regarding the need for Bernhart's Park to be remediated.

Dr. Kimball discussed the comments made by City officials at the May 24th meeting. She stated that Councilwoman Donna Reed and Mayor McMahon expressed the need to have Exide remediate the park to 400 ppm. She also expressed that the rest of City Council believed that Exide should go ahead with the current remediation plan in order for the park to be opened to the public and enjoyed. Dr. Kimball discussed the park's path sizes and shared a story about motorcycle use on the hilly area of the park. She also expressed her interest in knowing the Ballard children's lead levels.

Dr. Wong inquired if the Ballard children were being tested. Dr. Kimball confirmed.

Mr. Reber stated that he is concerned with children swimming in the lake with the lead levels that are found in the park. He stated that on one occasion he saw nine (9) children in the lake swimming and on another occasion he saw five (5) children swimming in the lake.

Dr. Wong and Dr. Kimball replied that according to testing the water is safe.

Mr. Reber stated that he is concerned with the safety of the children. He added that there is a risk of them drowning or being exposed to unsafe lead levels. Dr. Hassel added that swimming in the lake has never been allowed.

Mr. Reber explained the history of the water flow of the lake at Bernhart's Lake.

Dr. Kimball inquired what Mr. Reber would want to see happen with this issue. Mr. Reber replied that he would like to contact Chief Heim in order have more officers patrolling the area. Dr. Kimball stated that she does not believe the Police Department can patrol the area 24 hours a day. *(Note: Bernhart's Park is located in Muhlenberg and would be patrolled by the Muhlenberg Police Department.)*

Dr Kimball stated that the next step would be to look at the sediment pond and the risk of drowning. She inquired how deep the lake is. Mr. Reber replied that he was not sure. Dr. Wong added that the deepest areas are probably around 20 feet.

Dr. Hassel stated that recreational swimming was never allowed at this park.

Dr. Kimball stated that signs should be posted to state "Danger: No Swimming". Dr. Hassel suggested clearly posting signs stating "Unsafe for Swimming".

Mr. Reber inquired what would happen if children continue swimming in the lake. Dr. Hassel stated that they would be trespassing if they would continue to swim in the lake.

Dr. Kimball stated that she would draft a letter to Police Chief Heim requesting patrols of the area for swimmers.

Dr. Kimball announced the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 7th at 6pm.

Mr. Reber moved, seconded by Mr. Wong, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm

Respectfully submitted by Maritza Loaiza, Admin Assist to City Clerk